



THE LEADER

Vol. 37, No. 36

Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D. ♦ www.grandforks.af.mil

Sept. 13, 2002



Money
Money
Money

- Checkout who keeps the bases' books and how they do it, see Pages 10 and 11

319th Air Refueling Wing ♦ Solano Trophy Winner ♦ Best Base in 15th Air Force

In this issue:

Weekend weather

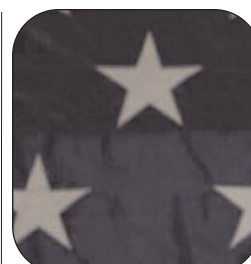
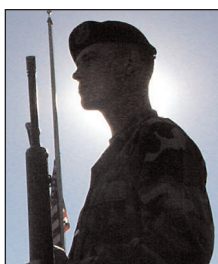
Today	80/57	rain
Saturday	70/58	windy
Sunday	74/50	windy
Monday	75/56	windy



Weather information courtesy
319th Operations Support Squadron weather flight

Wing
remembers
Sept. 11

Page 3



Looking
back

Page 4



Athlete
showcases
talents

Page 13

All hands: KC-135 boom operator juggles extra duties, delivers fuel for Operation Enduring Freedom

By Airman 1st Class Tarkan Dospil
379th AEW Public Affairs

He's like a military renaissance man. Tech. Sgt. Christopher Campbell, chief boom operator for the



Photos by Airman 1st Class Tarkan Dospil

Tech. Sgt. Christopher Campbell, deployed from the 319th Operations Support Squadron, shuffles being chief boom operator for the 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron with a variety of extra duties.

340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron does a lot more than just deliver fuel over Afghanistan for the War on Terrorism.

The master sergeant-select also trains other boom operators when he's not shuffling several extra duties within the squadron. He's the unit's first sergeant, boom instructor and acquisitions point of contact. He coordinates with home station and the Air Transportation Operations Center on the weight and loading procedures of cargo, and processes in- and out-bound troop movements.

"I'm just trying to make life a little easier on everybody within the squadron," said Campbell. "The extra duties keep me busy, and I learn something new every day."

Take his job as first sergeant, for example. Campbell had no prior experience, but jumped into the job with full force.

"I enjoy being a first shirt," he said. "It's rewarding and a big job."

He recruited the help of several other first sergeants to help learn the ropes.

"Many units brought me up to speed on the job," he said, adding that he doesn't have the desire to become a full-time diamond.

"I enjoy flying," he said. "Being a shirt is nice, but my heart is in the skies."

Campbell also processes new troops at the ATOC by meeting and briefing them on what to expect at Base Y.

"We work together to make sure that everyone arrives and gets settled in, as well as leaves on time," he said.

Shuffling duties is a matter of prioritization for Campbell.

"They all sort of merge together," he said. "I try to knock out the most important ones first. There's no real set order."

His work has not gone unnoticed, either. Lt. Col. Stu Shaw, 340th EARS commander, picked up on Campbell's "high speed" attitude right away.

"He's incredible," Shaw said. "He takes care of all these additional duties and still flies. We wonder when he sleeps."

Campbell first began scooping up extra duties when he was working the security forces field 13 years ago.

"When I started working in the armory, I did resource advising and drafting awards and decorations," he said. "It really offered an extra sense of accomplishment."

He eventually cross-trained to be a boom operator.

"When I'm at home, I like to relax, and catch up on whatever work needs to be done around the house, vehicles, etc." he said. "I spend most of my time with my 2-year-old son and 5-year-old daughter, and my wife whom I've been married to for 11 years. She takes care of a lot of the responsibilities. She has all the 'extra duties' when I'm deployed," he said

Ultimately, Campbell said he takes on more so others can do less.

"I really just want people to be happy; it raises performance levels and morale," he said. "If they're happy, then I'm happy."

If that means being an Air Force renaissance man and juggling handfuls of extra duties, he's willing to do it.



THE LEADER

On the cover:

A cash counting machine in the 319th Comptroller Squadron, flips through a stack of twenty dollar bills. The squadron keeps a minimal amount of cash on hand for special situations.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Scott Sturkol

93%

Air Refueling Effectiveness Rate from Sept. 2 through Sept. 8.

13

DWI-free days. The base gets a down day for 100 DWI-free days.

Editorial staff

Col. Keye Sabol _____ Wing commander
Capt. Patricia Lang _____ Chief, public affairs
Staff Sgt. Scott Sturkol _____ Chief, internal information
Senior Airman Monte Volk _____ Managing Editor
Staff Sgt. Randy Roughton _____ Staff writer

Editorial policy

The Leader is published by the Grand Forks Herald, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 319th Air Refueling Wing. This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of The Leader are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by DOD, the Department of the Air Force, or the Grand Forks Herald of products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron.

♦Deadlines

Articles: Due by noon Thursday the week prior to publication. For any questions about submissions, call The Leader staff at 747-5019.

♦Contact information

E-mail: leader@grandforks.af.mil

Phone: 701.747.5023

♦Public Affairs

Editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the 319th ARW public affairs office. Copy submitted for publication is edited to conform to the Associated Press Stylebook and for length.

♦Advertisements

Call the Grand Forks Herald at 701.780.1275 before noon Tuesday.

Vigilant warrior

Airman 1st Class Justin Powell, 319th Security Forces Squadron, stands guard at the main gate Wednesday, the one-year anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Behind Powell are 50 United States flags mounted at half-mast. The flags were just one of many things the base did to observe the anniversary. Additionally, more security forces were on hand at the base entrances due to an elevated nation-wide terrorist alert.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol

Air Force strives to get airmen paid right

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER, Randolph AFB, Texas - More than a year after a new personnel data system began to trigger an "unacceptable" number of pay problems, Air Force leaders have appointed a 'pay czar' and mobilized personnel and finance people to fix and prevent pay problems.

A recent success: ensuring more than 150 new retirees, some just released from stop loss, received their first retirement paychecks Sept. 1.

"It's the kind of thing we're getting a lot better at catching before it happens, but it's still amazingly complicated to fix," said Dave Ashton, a career personnelist who's back at the personnel center after a 30-year active-duty career.

In June the commander here asked him to drop what he was doing to become the "personnel pay czar." Ashton accepted the challenge and now acts as the center's liaison

to the air staff, installation personnel and finance offices, and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (where all pay transactions ultimately take effect).

His task is to find problems, fix them, and find ways to get bad data out of the system before it does more damage to airmen's pay.

Military pay is complicated. Airmen receive allowances and bonuses that vary depending on such things as number of years in the service, qualifying bonuses and term of enlistment, Ashton said.

Pay problems range from people getting paid the wrong amounts to people having to receive pay 'manually' instead of through standard electronic transfers directly into bank accounts.

One way to prevent pay problems before they happen is to detect disagreements between an airman's finance and personnel records. Officials estimate data mismatches

may affect up to 40,000 airmen.

Individuals can help themselves by reviewing their monthly leave and earning statements, said Ashton. "That's something everyone should always do—every month."

But the Air Force doesn't want to depend on airmen policing their own records.

"We want to prevent most of those errors from ever occurring," he said. "We're dedicated to catching these problems as soon as possible because airmen deserve the best pay support we can provide," said Bruce Lemkin, the Air Force's second-highest ranking financial manager and co-chair of the Personnel and Pay Council.

Chartered by the Secretary of the Air Force, the council guides Air Force pay improvement efforts.

One of the council's visions is to initiate "one-stop customer service," which means

airmen will no longer have to do the leg-work carrying issues between personnel and finance offices, he said.

"We're going to take the problem and send the person home assured that we will pass the issue among the relevant offices for them...and keep them updated," Lemkin said.

Extra training, increased communication, and "just plain hard work from a lot of our bases and the people here and in the finance world" will get things back on track.

"We're still fighting to get to where the systems share the right information," he said.

As a forerunner to the one-stop shopping vision, Mr. Ashton recently distributed a database that will help support "virtual" one-stop customer service. The program was sent to every Air Force base serving as an interim step until a central database, still under development, can be

Looking back

Wing commander reviews first year; remembers assuming command during nation's darkest hours

By Airman 1st Class Joshua G. Moshier
Public affairs

While getting the job done is expected of everyone in the military, it has not gone unnoticed here. Col. Keye Sabol, 319th Air Refueling Wing commander, will celebrate his one-year anniversary as wing commander Sept. 18. His one-year review of the base's performance is glowing.

"It's like joining a championship sports team," Sabol said. "You want to send letters home, get pictures taken with the team, and you want to be the first one on the field in that first game to help get that win. It's just an excitement to be a part of that team. This is a championship team."

"We have shown a gold medal response," said Sabol, "no doubt in my mind."

Consider, between September and December of last year, following the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., the base flew close to 15,000 hours – a record.

"That was something to be proud of," Sabol said. "And, we did that with old airplanes, perhaps the biggest

obstacle we had to overcome. That and a small crew ratio put a lot of pressure on our maintainers and fliers, but they stepped up to the task."

Not only has the workload increased considerably, he said, but also efficiency has remained at a very high level.

"We've doubled our record flying hours from a year ago," Sabol said, "and we've done it with an air refueling reliability of 90 to 100 percent throughout the year. That's just phenomenal. We've kept those airplanes flying successfully, and I thank God we've done it without any safety incidents. We've kept supporting the mission, and we've kept our people healthy."

Air refueling is only part of the battle, however. With heavy deployments and increased security measures, as well as the added responsibility of Cavalier Air Station, the 319th Security Forces Squadron has put in their fair share of hard work.

"We've been able to overcome a lot of manning obstacles through sheer hard work and teamwork," Sabol said.

– See **COMMAND**, next page



File photo

Col. Keye Sabol, 319th Air Refueling Wing commander, receives the wing flag from Maj. Gen. John Becker, 15th Air Force commander, during the wing change of command ceremony Sept. 18, 2001.

– **COMMAND**, continued from previous page

“We’ve done that through help from the Total Force as well. We’ve had Guard and Reserve personnel from Wisconsin and Missouri who have stepped in and helped shoulder that load with a great effort.”

However, the base’s biggest success in his year here, Sabol said, was succeeding with that workload and being among the initial wave of deployments.

“Between late September and December, when we set our record for flying hours,” Sabol said, “We did not drop a single sortie. Phenomenal. And, since then it has been pretty much the same track record. We have not dropped sorties. And, we have been there. If a bomber or fighter needed us, we were there.”

Since Sept. 11, and the initial wave of deployments, the base has continued to support homeland security, but the overseas requirements have increased, he said.

“We are still supporting that engagement, even now,” Sabol said, “and we’ve also shifted to a different base – Base Y. We are still in theatre, and we are still supporting the war on terrorism.”

The deployments have become more planned over the course of the year, enabling the wing to more accurately enlighten personnel on deploy and return dates.

“The amount of days our folks will be on temporary duty has increased since last year,” Sabol said. “We may see some folks gone more than 200 days a year. We know that will be stressful for many families. We will try to tell them when and how long our airmen will be gone. If we can tell them that, it will go a long ways toward dealing with their family concerns.”

Looking ahead, Sabol said the biggest challenge facing Warriors of the North is keeping the focus.

“For those who are deployed, they certainly have kept the focus because they’re in the middle of it,” he said. “But, they need to know we have the same focus here. They need to know they will have the same support today they had Sept. 12, 2001. The focus is, we are at war.”

“Many will think we use that term too much,” Sabol con-

tinued, “but every day we have military members getting shot at, getting wounded, and some getting killed. We’re at war with a very difficult enemy. But let there be no question about it, we will win this war.”

Keeping the focus is Sabol’s number one concern, but he remains confident Grand Forks has the team for the job.

“We’ve got old airplanes, but we’ve got the team of all teams to keep them going,” Sabol said. “We’ve got young crews, but they’re excited about flying these airplanes. They’re excited about being a part of the mission. They’re in the middle of it, and I think they’re excited about it.

“But, everybody needs to know they’re a part of the fight. It’s those members who stayed at the medical desks 24 hours a day, seven days a week ready to help anybody. It’s the security forces out there in the cold. It’s the dog handlers taking requests from around the city. It’s transportation. It’s the public affairs folks getting the word out.

Everybody has come together and done their job, and that’s what has made this a gold medal performance. Keeping the focus is the big challenge, but I’m not worried with the people we have here.”

Moreover, Sabol said all the good things he was told prior to assuming command a year ago have been proven.

“I couldn’t be more proud of this base and how everyone has carried themselves in the past year,” Sabol said. “When I came to Air Mobility Command, I got briefings from the different leadership in the command, including the four-star general. Every one of them said Grand Forks was the gem of the command.

“A year later, I have no doubt why they said this is the gem of the command. We do things here like no one else does. This is a team you can be proud to be a part of.”

“A gold medal response is easy for me to say as a wing commander,” Sabol said, “but it was also noted by 15th Air Force. They awarded us the Solano Trophy as the top active duty wing in 15th Air Force.

“It’s not just words I’m saying – it’s reality.”

Briefs

Air Force Ball

The 2002 Air Force Ball is scheduled for Sept. 28 at Ralph Englestad Arena in downtown Grand Forks. Social hour with appetizers begins at 4 p.m., and dinner is at 5 p.m. This year’s theme is “Standing Stronger in the Face of Terror.”

Deadline for registration is Sept. 20, and deadline for cancellations is Sept. 25. Cost is \$15 for E-1 through E-6 and GS-1 through GS-5, \$20 for E-7 through O-2 and GS-6 through GS-9, and \$25 for O-3 and above and GS-10 and above. Spouses pay the price of their host military member, and all others pay \$25.

Former Air Force chief of staff, retired Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman is the guest speaker. Fogleman served as the senior uniformed Air Force officer from October 1994 to August 1997. He was responsible for 750,000 active duty, Guard, Reserve and civilian forces serving throughout the world.

Appropriate dress for the evening is mess dress for military and evening wear for civilians.

Graduates

Congratulations to **Master Sgt. Geoffrey Bengston** on his graduation from the Senior NCO Academy Sept. 2.

Congratulations to **Capt. Kevin E. Cubstead, Ann McCabe, Michael Schreffler, Ivan Akerman**, and **Robert Champion** on their graduation from Squadron Officer School Aug. 23.

Housing contractor QAE

Base housing occupants who would like to provide comments (positive or negative) regarding the performance of either the housing maintenance or the housing management contractor should contact the quality assurance office at 747-6912 or 747-4758.

Commentary

319th Comptroller Squadron:

Where people count

People from the 319th Comptroller Squadron are true Warriors of the North.

Financial management personnel provide financial services, also known as “finance,” and financial analysis, “budget.” This is what we bring to the fight: we are warriors first; second we pay the active duty and Department of Defense civilian force that support and defend our country; third we partner with leadership and aid in decision-making; and fourth we pay the contractors who sustain our forces.

Our mission is our wartime tasking ... we are warriors first. Military financial managers are tasked to deploy wherever United States forces are located. Since Sept. 11, we’ve deployed in support of the War on Terrorism overseas and stateside.

FM’ers usually deploy as a paying agent. Our agent serves the commander and you by providing services such as foreign currency exchange, check cashing, military and travel pay assistance, and ensuring local vendors are paid. Additionally, home-station support to the war effort is provided in many ways.

Deployed commanders and personnel “reach back” to finance for pay assistance. Our warriors taking care of your travel pay compute approximately 800 settlement claims per month.

Additionally, budget members meticulously track all costs associated with the wars we participate in. This fiscal year alone, budget has recorded over \$1.6 million in 319th Air Refueling Wing war costs. Without budget’s diligence, the wing would not receive the proper funding



Maj. Cheryl Scott
319th Comptroller
Squadron
commander

to cover our war efforts.

Finally, we do what it takes to ensure we are prepared when called to action...what other organization can be depended on to accumulate \$500,000 cash in a three-day period if needed? Your warriors in FM made it happen.

Pay operations

We pay the military and civilian forces that support and defend our country. We do this to the tune of about \$59 million per year for military personnel and \$18 million for our civilian force. Additionally, another \$6

million per year is paid in temporary duty assignment dollars. One can never overestimate the importance of pay. Bottom line — our goal is to have pay be the least of your concerns.

Leadership partners and decision making

We partner with leadership and aid in decision-making. Our Air Force financial management vision is to become, “Strategic partners recognized as the ultimate source for financial and management information...”

Paying the contractors

This fiscal year we’ve paid \$26.3 million to contractors supporting the wing’s mission. Timely and correct payment is critical to their continued support. We can’t afford for them to take their business elsewhere.

Vital to base success

We are warriors first and have wartime taskings. Additionally, we pay the force that defends our country, we partner with leadership, and we pay the contractor who sustains our forces. This is what we bring to the fight.

Hispanic Heritage Month starts Sunday

By Tech. Sgt. Luis Brito
Military equal opportunity office

Building awareness of Hispanic cultures’ unique contributions to United States society and the partnership in shaping our nation is our educational goal of this year’s National Hispanic Heritage Month. Hispanic Heritage Month starts Sunday and runs through Oct. 15.

According to this year’s theme, “Hispanics: Strength in Unity, Faith, Diversity,” with growth comes a renewed responsibility for Hispanics to shape not only their culture’s future, but national policy as well.

Challenges will likely include: increased recruiting and retention of Hispanics into the armed forces, the prospect of North

American Free Trade Agreement expansion, the evolution of Cuba as a non-Communist nation, the possible addition of Puerto Rico as the 51st state, language issues and comprehensive immigration policy revision.

Nation building is a dynamic process, and the United States is a blossoming nation. Building on the best of what each culture has to offer may be our country’s finest attribute.

Quoting Federico Mayor Zaragoza, Director General of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, “America’s main role in the New World order is not as a military superpower, but as a multicultural superpower.”

Hispanics make up about 9 percent of

— See **HISPANIC**, Page 8

New command chief sends challenge to Warriors of the North

I am extremely humbled and grateful to our wing commander, Col. Keye Sabol, for selecting me to serve as your Team Grand Forks command chief master sergeant.

His confidence in me is inspiring and gives me the additional energy to do my part to help make the 319th Air Refueling Wing an even better place to serve, live, and play.

What a tremendous honor, and I certainly owe a dept of gratitude to our recently departed former command chief, Chief Master Sgt. Patrick Melton and former wing commander, now Brig. Gen. Scott Gray.

Collectively, they planted the seed that I had the right tools to serve in this prestigious position back in July 2001. They submitted my name forward for consideration for the very first Command Chief Master Sergeant Candidate Board. Ultimately, I was one of 124 fellow chiefs Air Force-wide to be selected for the 2001 CCM candidate list. Further, Col. Sabol gave me the opportunity to serve you on an interim basis while Chief Melton was deployed.

I've come to better understand that my God makes revelations in his time not mine. Certainly, this God is



**Chief Master Sgt.
Danny G. Holwerda**
319th Air Refueling Wing
command chief master sergeant

the guiding spirit that will continue to direct me with this opportunity he has revealed.

Family is so very important to those of us given the privilege of serving and I have been extremely blessed to have some special people serving right along with me.

My wife and best friend, Jill, along with four wonderful children, are my biggest advocates and none of this would be possible without their continued support and service to country.

We've got the right leader directing us and an all-star team of commanders surrounds the wing commander.

Supporting them is a brilliant team of officers, enlisted personnel, civilian work force, contractors, families and friends.

Furthermore, we couldn't ask for any greater support than we get from our surrounding communities.

I look forward to learning and growing from each of you.

One of the false beliefs by a small audience of personnel assigned here is that there is nothing to do. I would challenge anyone with that belief to take a look in the

mirror. I believe if people are honest, they will come to the conclusion that a lot can be done to improve the person looking back at them. We have a great base and community full of endless opportunity to enhance each of us individually and collectively.

Being the best at supporting our challenging mission heads the list. Other activities such as off duty education, physical fitness programs, and spiritual enrichment play vital roles in our readiness.

Volunteer opportunities galore are available throughout the base and community. These volunteer organizations are only successful if you support them.

I encourage everyone to give back and get involved with these activities. You will find they enhance us professionally and play a crucial role in maintaining our readiness.

Our challenge is to build on the many great things we have and seek ways to make them even better.

High quality teams constantly seek more efficient ways to execute and that's what you get from Team Grand Forks. "Warriors of the North," I look forward serving with you as we continue the focus of being the best at everything we do.

We can't go wrong if we are doing the right thing and applying the four "U's" - United States of America, United States Air Force, Unit, and you.



*What is the role of
the 319th ARW
command chief?*



He advises the commander and his staff on matters of health, welfare and morale, and effective utilization of more than 2,500 total force enlisted personnel assigned to Grand Forks Air Force Base.



55 years later, Air Force is stronger than ever

By Wednesday, the United States Air Force will bring to a close its 55th year of existence and wow, what a journey it has been.

According to Air Force history, the National Security Act of 1947 created the Department of the Air Force, headed by a secretary of the Air Force.

The act established the United States Air Force, headed by the chief of staff, USAF. On Sept. 18, 1947, W. Stuart Symington became Secretary of the Air Force, and on Sept. 26, Gen. Carl A. Spaatz became the USAF's first chief of staff.

Nearly 10 years ago I talked with a group of World War II veterans from the Army's 401st Aviation Engineers Battalion. They are the group of folks who went to build airfields during the war. Some of their work is still in use – most notably at Lajes Field, Azores, and Gowen Field in Boise, Idaho.

Anyway, a couple of them once told me they were not surprised the Air Force was going to be a separate service.

Matter of fact, one even told me he was hoping for it because he saw that airpower was going to be the wave of the future.

When I asked about today's Air Force, they said they were certainly proud of what has been accomplished.

"From prop planes to the jet age to stealth planes – you guys sure have built on something that once was only a dream," one said to me.

Even though that was in 1993, he couldn't place the landing gear on the runway better. In 1947, the United States military

was still in a post-war transformation period and the Air Force could only be assessed as one of the world's air forces. Now it is the world's best air force.

Like the commercials say – "No one comes close!"

Over the years the service has been involved in many conflicts – Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Libya, Gulf War, Operation Allied Force, Operation Enduring Freedom, and not to mention

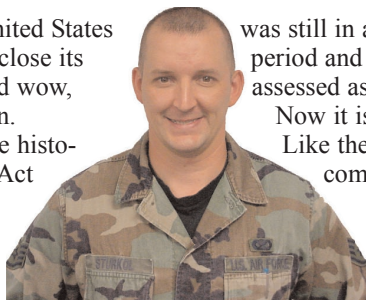
thousands upon thousands of Cold War missions. I think it was the Gulf War and OEF, though, that really brought "America's" Air Force to the forefront of the world's eyes. Now is the time we're showing everyone the strength of airpower and what it can do.

I know it's been said before that we're the best-equipped, best-trained force the world has seen, but it's true. The Air Force has always strived to be the best. Like the 319th Air Refueling Wing motto, "To be the best in everything," the people of the Air Force take their job seriously.

Today, 55 years later, Dr. James Roche is the Secretary of the Air Force and Gen. John P. Jumper is chief of staff. We've also got an Air Force command chief master sergeant in CMSAF Gerald R. Murray.

These leaders and those who serve as officers, senior NCOs, NCOs and airmen should be proud of what they are part of.

Like the old WWII veterans said to me when they heard the sound of aircraft flying overhead back in 1993, "You hear those engines – that's the sound of freedom. You remember that and you'll always know that you are part of something this world has never seen before."



Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol
Public affairs

– HISPANIC, from Page 6

the United States' population and 6 percent of the total Armed Forces. According to census figures, there are more than 22 million Americans with Hispanic backgrounds.

Airman 1st Class Angella Veve, with the assistance of the base Organization of Latin Americans chapter and the University of North Dakota leads the base Hispanic Cultural Committee.

Following are upcoming base HHM events:

► For the children, there will be a children's reading Wednesday and Sept. 20 at 4 p.m. You have your choice of a hearing a story at the youth center, community activity center, or the base library.

► Children can learn to make their very own piñatas at our Kid's Fair 3:30 to 5 p.m. Sept.

27 in the child development center. In addition to the piñatas we will also be having face paintings, games, treats, and much, much more.

► For those of you wishing to experience the spice of Latino nightlife, come join us at 7 p.m. Sept. 27 in The Club for Salsa Night. Be sure to pay close attention to the free lessons given during the first hour to win the Salsa dance contest!

► The main event, the HHM luncheon, is Oct. 5 at noon. Senior Airman Richard Osorio will be the guest speaker, followed by lunch catered by Paradisos. While enjoying your meal, relax to the sounds of Licanantay, a unique Chilean musical group consisting of five very talented members. Last but not least, we will be announcing the winners of the Children's Story and Drawing Contest that will be advertised throughout the month. A variety of ethnic displays and exhibits will be on hand, and of course candy filled pinatas for children.

For more details about HHM activities, call Veve at 747-3146.

Base chapel

CATHOLIC:

Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday, Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. All at Sunflower Chapel.

Catholic Parish Picnic: 11 a.m., Sunday, Liberty Square (No 9 a.m. Mass) Bring a dish to share.

CCD: 10:45 a.m., Sunday at Twining School.

Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday or by appointment, Sunflower Chapel

Singles Bible Study: noon, Wednesday, Sunflower Chapel

PROTESTANT:

General Protestant Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Sunflower Chapel.

Liturgical Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Prairie Rose Chapel.

Inspirational Worship: 6 p.m., Sunday, Prairie Rose Chapel

Singles: 7:15 p.m. Sunday, meet at Prairie Rose Chapel annex

Youth: 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Youth Center, Grades 7 to 12

Religious Education: 9 a.m., Sunday, Eielson Elementary School. Begins Sunday, register at either chapel.

JEWISH:

Call Sheila Farquharson at 594-3960 or Synagogue B’nai Israel at 775-5124 for details.

RUSSIAN/EASTERN ORTHODOX:

Call Dr. Levitov at 780-6540 for details.

MUSLIM, BUDDHIST, OTHER:

Call 747-5673 for details.

Base theater

Today, 7 p.m.

Austin Powers: Gold Member (PG-13)

In this third installment, Dr. Evil (Mike Myers) and Mini-Me (Verne Troyer) escape from prison with plans for world domination. The duo teams up with a new villain, Goldmember (also Myers), with a plan to kidnap Austin's father, Nigel Powers (Michael Caine). To defeat Evil, Austin travels to 1975 and teams up with CIA agent Foxy Cleopatra (Beyoncé Knowles)

Saturday, 3 p.m.

The Master of Disguise (PG)

Dana Carvey plays Pistachio Disguisey, the last in a long line of a family of (you guessed it) masters of disguise, which stretches back 2000 years with roots in Europe. When Fabbrizio (James Brolin), his father, is kidnapped by the evil Devlin Bowman (Brent Spiner), who plans to steal the world's most precious treasures, Pistachio has to harness his innate gifts with the help of his assistant (Jennifer Esposito) to save his parents and the world.

Saturday, 7 p.m.

Austin Powers: Gold Member (PG-13)

Sept. 20, 7 p.m.

The Adventures of Pluto Nash (PG-13)

Sept. 21, 3 p.m.

Spiderman (PG-13)

Sept. 21, 7 p.m.

Bloodwork (R)

Tickets: \$1.50 children, \$3 adults
For details, call 747-3021.

Money managers – Keeps wing flying

By Staff Sgt.
Randy Roughton
Public affairs

Managing the 319th Air Refueling Wing’s money resembles planning the family budget, wing comptrollers like to say. Of course, most families don’t have to budget for war.

Wartime financial constraints represent only one of the challenges the 319th Comptroller Squadron budget office faces.

“I equate it to buying groceries with a budgeted amount; you get what is needed and throw in a little extra for smiles. Sometimes you buy Ding Dongs and Twinkies to get home to find out they wanted Ho-Hos,” budget officer Pat Maggard said. “So you have to go back and get them Ho-Hos.

“You have so many different areas to consider, and it can be really stressful. It’s a big challenge to try to make everybody happy, with four groups and wing staff on base: everybody has a mission that leads into the wing mission. There never seems to be enough money, just like with a family budget.”

The budget office’s goal is to ensure wing funds are spent wisely, so the wing can accomplish every aspect of its mission. The office acts as an agent for wing commander Col. Keye Sabol in his



Photo by Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol
Pat Maggard, budget officer, works at her desk in the 319th Comptroller Squadron.

responsibilities for balancing base financial planning and execution. Maggard and the budget office’s other three civilians and six military members work with guidelines outlined in Air Force

wing budget czars aren’t to blame, said Tech. Sgt. Matthew Jackson, financial analyst.

“We’re not the bad guys,” Jackson said. “We’re financial managers, governors of

Instruction 65-601, “Financial Management.”

This past year offered a unique challenge, with the wing more than doubling its anticipated flying hours. The budget called for more than 13,000 flying hours in fiscal year 2002, but it exceeded 27,000 to-date. The wing’s KC-135s off-loaded \$23.5 million of fuel in the past year, more than twice the figure predicted last September. “There sometimes is a lag time in getting the money,” Maggard said, “but Air Mobility Command’s policy is, ‘You fly, we buy.’”

“With the war effort, working within the budget is a challenge. This is a trying time for our country, so it’s difficult to keep everybody safe and happy.”

There are obvious priorities when planning the next year’s budget, especially concerning the base’s refueling mission, so people can be inevitably disappointed when their organizations

don’t receive funds they believe necessary. But the

the wing’s money. We don’t set the precedents, we just follow the rules.”

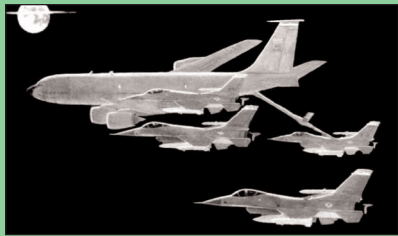
September, which Maggard described as “rush month at a sorority,” is always a busy time for those charged with managing the wing budget. Once October rolls around, she can take a deep breath while waiting for next fiscal year’s funds to arrive.

“It’s sometimes trying to make sure everyone first gets what they need, and also what they want (if we can),” Maggard said. “What I like about my job is meeting the wing’s needs and wants and getting recognized with a heartfelt, thank you. When we close our doors Sept. 30, we always walk away with a smile, knowing we did what we were supposed to do.”

‘You fly, we buy’ 319th CPTS and the mission

The 319th Air Refueling Wing budget called for more than 13,000 flying hours in fiscal year 2002, but it exceeded 27,000 to-date.

The wing’s KC-135s off-loaded \$23.5 million of fuel in the past year, more than twice the figure predicted last September.



Getting paid:

Finance personnel makes sure members get their money on time, every time

By Staff Sgt.
Randy Roughton
Public affairs

Base civilian employees may not wear the Air Force uniform, but they share at least one characteristic with their military counterparts. They, too, want to get paid for their work.

The 319th Comptroller Squadron’s military pay and civilian pay personnel try to ensure accurate and timely pay for both groups of base employees.

This fiscal year payroll consists of more than \$17.5 million for about 350 base appropriated fund civilian employees, except for the commissary, said financial analyst Linda Vanderhoff.

The first paycheck of the month, which is currently Sept. 13, sets up the estimate for the entire month.

“Estimates go into the accounting system for the first payroll of every month,” Vanderhoff said. “We get a consolidated report out, listed by program element, that tells us how many hours people are working, their regular hours, their government benefits, if they get overtime or awards and how many people are in that element. “Then, we use a spreadsheet



Photo by Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol

Senior Airman Ricky Burch, 319th Comptroller Squadron military pay technician, assists Tech. Sgt. Brian Cleland, 319th Air Refueling Wing, with finance paperwork at the squadron’s customer service desk.

based on a 12-month period that has formulas to tell us what percentage of benefits are being paid to employees as a whole. We base our payroll on a target work/year cost that includes employee salaries, benefits and any awards.”

The work/year cost could average between \$40,000 to \$80,000, depending on the person, she said.

“From that, we can figure out

how many people we can put on board.”

Military pay financial services are divided into three main sections: accounting liaison, customer support and customer service, said Capt. Richard Stacey, military pay financial services officer.

From Stacey to Tech. Sgts. Erica Flickinger, Johnny McCray and Kevin Olheiser, all have the same basic mission: “to try to get

everybody paid within the Air Mobility Command standard.

“We have two standards we try to meet,” Olheiser said. “The AMC standard is to pay temporary duty assignments within seven days. Our Grand Forks standard is five days. Our biggest challenge is to try to get all of them paid in the Grand Forks standard, but at least meet the AMC standard. It can be tough like in the last couple of days when the deployment lines come through, and we have about a hundred vouchers a day.”

Other concerns in finance include the government travel card, especially when members are deployed for a while. The answer to timely payments, Stacey said, is accrual vouchers.

They also encourage more base members to use the Employee/Member Self Service System for basic pay and benefits questions. Details are available at 1-877-DOD-EMSS, <http://www.emss.dfas.mil>.

“Our biggest battle is with accessions in military pay,” Stacey said. “We have people coming in who aren’t established in the system by military personnel flight with the (Defense Finance and Accounting Service). If they don’t have anything established, that interfaces

with their pay. We work with MPF to make sure these guys are getting paid, either by partial payments or by building a record for them.

“We want to make sure folks get what they’re entitled to.”

Vanderhoff said she faces her job’s biggest challenge in civilian pay when employees move to another job on base.

“The biggest challenge to this job is making sure people’s accounting records remain correct when they come on board or they move between jobs,” she said. “When a person comes on board, you have to watch the stop date of employment in the payroll system. If it shows the person had been terminated, but they’re bringing them back again, the system rejects them.

They don’t know this because they get paid, but in the system, they kind of go in la-la land, and we have to fix them with the people at (Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.).”

“The other thing is when people move from job to job, they will have a termination date in their old position and a start date in their new position. That termination date has to be removed because they’re not terminating from service, just from their position.”

What do you like best about the 319th Comptroller Squadron?



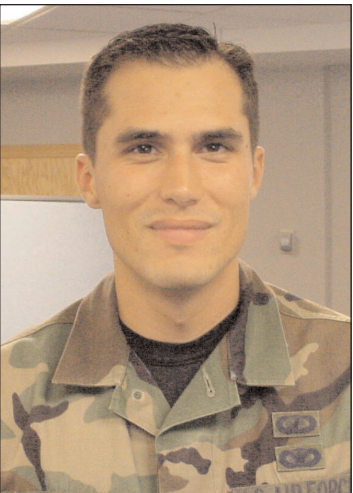
Capt. Richard Stacey
Financial services officer

“We work hard to get a lot of military pay and base bill-paying issues taken care of. We work hard every day to do our best job.”



Tech. Sgt. Erica Flickinger
Chief, customer service

“The best part is dealing with the customers and the people I work with.”



Staff Sgt. Erik Haugen
Accounting liaison technician

“The people are the best. Finance is really busy so the way the squadron personnel get along with each other helps make the job that much better.”



Airman 1st Class Paul Miranda
Military pay technician

“The people and the job are best because we get along very well and we help each other out.”



Steve Synnott
Financial analyst

“The best thing is the people. We have some real knowledgeable folks here who really know their jobs. It’s a great place to work because you can be yourself.”



Rhonda Olheiser
Civilian pay technician

“Everyone is friendly and there is a lot to learn. I like working with customers, so this is a good job.”

Community

Today

“RIDE THE BULL” -- The “Bull” is back at the club tonight at 5 p.m. and tomorrow at 9 p.m. Don’t miss this opportunity to test your bull riding skills. For details call 747-3392.

FRIDAYS AT LIBERTY SQUARE -- Open skating at Liberty Square tonight for ages 6 to 18 from 6 to 10 p.m. The cost is \$3 for admission and \$2 for skate rental. The teen center will be open tonight for ages 13 to 18 from 6 to 11 p.m.

Saturday

YOUTH GALAXY BOWLING -- Saturdays at Dakota Lanes for ages 9 - 12 from 6 to 8 p.m. and ages 13 to 15 from 8 to 10 p.m. Cost is \$2.50 per hour and 75 cents for shoe rental. Need 10 people to hold; must sign up at the youth center to attend.

DANCING AT THE CLUB-- Come out to the club tonight from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. and dance to ‘Club Mix’ music with “DJ.”

Sunday

FOOTBALL FRENZY -- Join the club for “Football Frenzy” today at noon; vote to watch your favorite team on the *NFL Sunday Ticket*.

Monday

BEGINNING SEWING -- Get ready for the holidays and take this class Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Learn to sew and make wonderful holiday pillowcases. Cost is \$7.50 plus supplies. Must pre-register.

WIDOW’S BINGO -- Come to the club tonight while your spouse is watching football – play Bingo. Cards will go on sale at 6 p.m. and games will start at 7 p.m. guaranteed a minimum of \$700 given nightly.

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL -- Come to the Club tonight for more “Football Frenzy” for *Monday Night Football* starter in the sports bar.

CANDY BINGO -- Every Monday for ages 6 - 12 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the youth center.

Tuesday

TOURNAMENT TUESDAYS -- Every Tuesday the youth center will hold Tournaments for ages 9 to 12 at 5:30 p.m. and ages 13 to 18 at 7 p.m. Today’s tournament is ping pong.

Wednesday

VALLEYFAIR -- Sign up today for outdoor recreation Sept. 21 Valleyfair trip. This is the last trip for this season. Enjoy the “Geeeee” forces and heart pounding thrills waiting for you at Valleyfair. The “Biggest Day Around” offers 75 rides and attractions for a full day of fun. Thrill to the roller-coaster excitement of Wild Thing, Corkscrew, High Roller, Excalibur, and Mad Mouse. Take a ride on Power

Tower – 275 feet of extreme scream. Departure will be at 5 a.m. from Outdoor Recreation and return late that night. Cost is \$45; includes transportation and admission to the park.

EVENING DINING AT THE CLUB -- The “Frontier Grill” menu is offered every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the club. Wednesday nights are half price starters and Thursday nights kid’s menu is half price.

Thursday

DOLLAR LUNCH DAY -- Today is dollar lunch day at the club from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Today’s menu is barbecue.

ARTS AND CRAFTS NIGHT -- The Youth Center has an evening of different arts & crafts projects for ages 6 to 12 at 5:30 p.m. and ages 13 - 18 at 7:30 p.m.

FINE ARTS PROGRAM -- Every Thursday is arts and crafts night at the youth center. This is a free program for ages 6 to 12 from 6 to 7 p.m. and ages 13-18 from 7 to 8 p.m.

DINING AT THE CLUB -- There will be a Mongolian BBQ Sept. 20 from 5:30 to 8 pm at the Club.

VOLKSSPORT -- There will be a Volksport walk Sept. 21 at Turtle River State Park. Participate in the 10K walk and enjoy the scenic trails through Turtle River State Park. Register the day the event from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. or contact outdoor recreation 747-3688 to pre-register. This is not a sanctioned event.

SUPER SUNDAY BRUNCH -- There will be a Sunday Brunch Sept. 22 from 10:30 a.m to 2 p.m. Come and enjoy all the usual breakfast items along with two meats potatoes, gravy and vegetables.

Upcoming

AIR FORCE BALL “MINI LOCK-IN” -- Parents don’t worry about a sitter for pre-teens. The youth center will be holding a mini lock-in for ages 6 to 12 from 3 to 11 p.m., Sept. 28 in conjunction with the Air Force Ball. Cost is \$10, includes dinner, snacks, games, arts and crafts, tournaments, videos and karaoke. Sign up at the Youth Center by the Sept. 24 with parent permission slip. Must have 25 people to hold activity.

MUSIC LESSONS -- The youth center would like to start new classes this fall: Flute and piccolo Instruction for beginner to Intermediate students ages 10 and up. Classes would be: 45 Minutes for beginners with two students in a class at a cost of \$20 per student one hour for intermediates with two students in a class at a cost of \$22 per student. Classes would be held on Wednesdays 5 to 8 pm at the youth center.

Guitar classes for beginning students in acoustic or electric guitar ages 10 and up at the youth center on Mondays 5 to 8 p.m. Classes will be 30 minutes in length with a cost of \$5 per lesson. For details, come by or call the youth center.



Photo by Jim Bridges

Making it look simple

Tom Sumner demonstrates how to form pottery on an electric potters’ wheel during a class he was teaching at the community activities center. The pot, more than 18 inches in circumference, helped inspire the class. The process of firing and glazing the pottery will follow, along with a display at the community activity center at the end of the month.

Heir Force

Haley Adrianna Blakeney, 8 pounds, 4 ounces, born Aug. 23 to Airman 1 st Class Jerrod Keith and Sembra Bethann Blakeney, 319th Mission Support Squadron.

Ty Alexander Cooley, 8 pounds, 6.9 ounces, born Aug. 26 to 1st Lt. Charles Daniel and Terese Anne Cooley, 906th Air Refueling Squadron.

Cody Russell Rosburg, 8 pounds, 7.8 ounces, born Aug. 30 to Tech. Sgt. Russell and Heather Rosburg, 319th Aircraft Generation Squadron.

Aria Marie Robinson, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born Aug. 31 to Airman 1st Class Jessie Jeanine Robinson, 319th Transportation Squadron.

Sydney Nicole Lloyd, 8 pounds, 9 ounces, born Sept. 1 to Staff Sgt. Lonnie Edward and Heidi Kay Lloyd, 319th Supply Squadron.

Tara Morgan Mosher, 7 pounds, 11.5 ounces, born Sept. 6 to Staff Sgt. Anthony and Tanya Mosher, 319th Security Forces Squadron.

Tessa Ann Lewis, 7 pounds, 4 ounces, born Sept. 9 to Tech. Sgt. James and Jeannette Lewis, 319th AGS.

Still a Titan: 319th CPTS athlete one of the best

By Airman 1st Class Joshua G. Moshier
Public affairs

When you grow up playing sports for T. C. Williams High School, Va., you're responsible for upholding quite a bit of athletic tradition.

Did you see the movie *Remember the Titans*? Yes, that's T. C. Williams High School.

Santea "T" McCleave of the 319th Comptroller Squadron had that honor as a 1996 graduate of the school immortalized in Hollywood by the 2000 movie starring Academy Award winner Denzel Washington. Not only did McCleave play for the Titans, he was a standout three-sport star.

McCleave was a four-year starting shortstop and pitcher, three-year starting shooting guard and two-year starting wide receiver for the Titan baseball, basketball and football teams. Awards and recognition of his performance on all fields came rolling in. He made the all-region basketball team as a senior. He was all-region his sophomore and junior years and all-state his senior year on the baseball team, plus he was voted his team's most valuable player twice.

Those types of awards led to hordes of scholarship offers in basketball and

baseball. However, McCleave had bigger plans.

"I had the opportunity to play professional baseball in Australia," he said. "At the time, I figured college would always be there, and getting paid to play seemed too good to pass up."

So, at age 17, McCleave boarded a plane to pursue his dreams of professional stardom. Unfortunately, things didn't work out as planned.

"I played real bad," he said. "I mean *real* bad. I was young, away from home for the first time, and I didn't have my focus where it should've been, which was on the ball field. If I could make the choice again, I would've went to college first."

McCleave did have one school in mind before he left for Australia, North Carolina A & T. When he got back to Virginia though, going to school wasn't on his mind.

"Honestly, I didn't do much of anything when I got back," he said. "I knew I had to do something eventually. That's when my uncle sat me down and persuaded me to join the Air Force."

After enlisting, McCleave said he had no desire to play any sports.

"I was pretty dejected," he said. "My whole life I was pretty much the best athlete on every team I played for. Then, when I moved to that next level, everyone I

was playing with and against was just like me. They were pretty much the best athletes on every team they played for, so I was out there playing with guys on the same level or better than me and I wasn't giving 100 percent effort."

That lack of effort was ultimately what cost McCleave his job in Australia, but it taught him a lesson that he swears he will never do again.

"No matter what sport it is or where I'm playing, I will never give less than 100 percent again," he said. "When I play sports now, my whole focus is to give everything I've got and try to be the best player on the field that day."

Sports taught McCleave more than giving maximum effort, however.

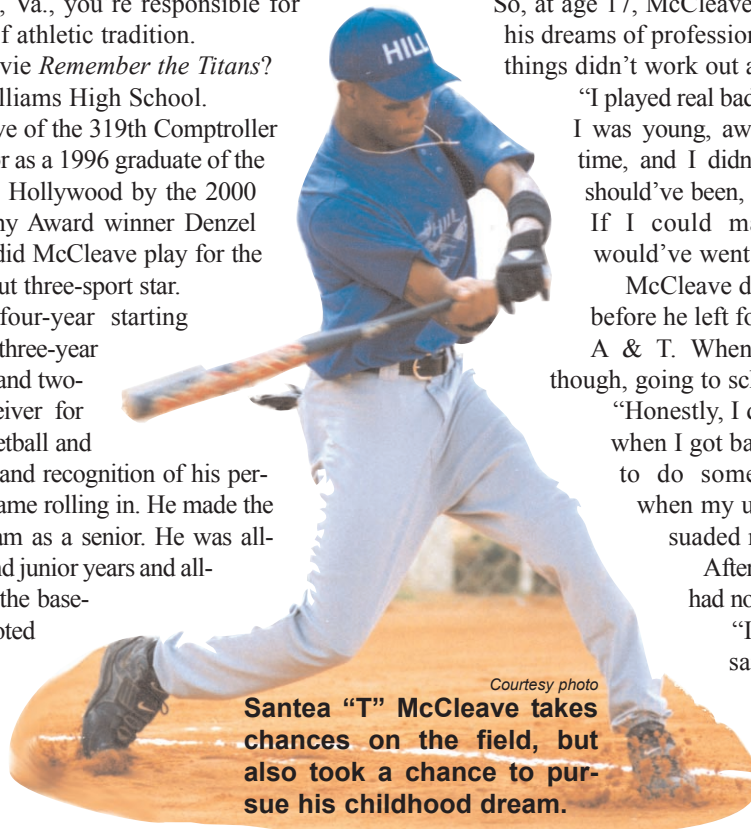
"I grew up in a very black community," McCleave said. "Most of the kids from my neighborhood played basketball. I liked playing basketball, but I liked playing baseball too. You just didn't see a whole lot of black kids playing baseball where I grew up, so I was pretty much the only one playing with mostly white kids."

"That definitely helped me understand and accept other races. When you're on a team, you learn to love the guys you play with because they're whom you depend on. It taught me to look past color at a young age."

McCleave is back on the field now. He actively participates in intramural softball, basketball and flag football on base, and is a member of several off-base softball teams in the summer.

As for now, McCleave has no plans to give professional baseball or college athletics another shot.

"I'm happy with where I'm at right now," he said, "but I say that today, and tomorrow I might say something different, so we'll have to wait and see what happens."



Santea "T" McCleave takes chances on the field, but also took a chance to pursue his childhood dream.